

OUR NAVY OF TODAY

Faultiness of the Present System of Organization.

TIMBER FOR GOOD MIDDIES

An Old-School Admiral Who Thinks That Brawny Farmer Boys Would Make the Best Material.

There is an old English sea song which says: "Our ships are British oak, and hearts of oak our men," and no matter what powerful engines a country may build, the greatest dependence has always been placed on the men who form their crews, and on their training and character.

The number of seamen allowed in the United States by law is seven thousand two hundred and fifty, and in addition there are fifteen hundred apprentice boys.

When the apprentice system was established in the early seventies, says Golden Days, it was supposed it would furnish a sufficient number of trained seamen for the navy, and make the enlistment of all others unnecessary. But the records show that not more than four per cent of the lads that are graduated from the training system continue in the service, and further, that of the seven thousand two hundred and fifty seamen allowed by law in the navy less than one-half of those who enlist at the receiving ships are native-born Americans; all this, too, in spite of the fact that our navy offers inducements in the way of greater pay and better rations than are given in any other navy in the world.

Rear Admiral Erben, the present commander in chief of United States forces in European waters, is an officer of the old school, and one who has seen war service. He was recently asked to give his opinion as to the cause of the present un-American condition in the navy's organization, and, if possible, to point out the remedy, and what he said is valuable and suggestive. While the admiral admitted the excellence of the training received by boys under the apprentice system, he pointed out that the number of apprentices remaining in the navy is each year less as the system of training reaches a higher standard of education.

When the apprentice, who has been taken in at the age of fourteen, grows to be eighteen or nineteen, he fancies himself a man. He has obtained a good, common school education on the training ship, and he is anxious to put that training to application in civil life.

When he reaches twenty-one years of age—the very time at which he is expected to enlist—he usually takes advantage of his discharge to leave the service.

Whether or not naval apprentices succeed in civil life is another matter. What the navy needs is men who will make the service their life calling.

Admiral Erben guaranteed that if the secretary of the navy could give him a vessel of the Essex or Enterprise type, he would fill it up with three hundred, brawny, brawny, muscular farm lads, and with no more than forty seamen he would be willing to take that untrained crew on a long foreign cruise. At the end of two years he would defy the most rigid board of inspection to find his crew inferior to that on any United States vessel.

There are today many American youths, twenty-one years of age and of American parentage, who know what it is to wrestle with life. For years they have been knocking around from one farm to another, uncertain of the future, and toiling for a precarious living, and the thought of twenty-five dollars a month pay, with food, and a pension after a certain length of service, would be to them a strong inducement to enter the navy.

Their life on board ship, as the admiral says, would be a new one. They would see many foreign ports, and when they went ashore in their natty uniforms they would feel that they were of some consequence.

It is doubtful if, after having pulled an oar in the admiral's barge or having been one of a crack gun crew, the new man-of-war's man would find an attraction in carrying the milk pail or getting up at four o'clock in the morning to do chores.

On the other hand, it is very certain that he would be regarded by his former companions as a superior fellow, and that his experience would attract them to the navy. Who knows but that there is some boy whistling at the plow to-day who may yet be a rear admiral?

Lightning at Sea.

An electric storm at sea is one of the alarming experiences to which a mariner is exposed, but as a matter of record it is one that is least fruitful in disastrous results. As a rule few precautions are taken to guard against a stroke of lightning, especially in the merchant service. Ships of war are usually fitted with lightning conductors, a precaution made necessary by the explosives stored away in their magazines. But those safeguards are seldom seen on a merchant vessel, and, judging by the extreme rarity of the cases where they have been struck, Jack's claim that he is safer on the ocean than on shore during an electrical disturbance must be admitted.

A Quaker English Election Custom.

The candidates for bailiff in the town of Alwinton, North England, just before the election, rode in procession to a horse pond near the town, dismounted and struggle through the mud and water as best they can. They are accompanied by a brass band and all the population of the town and neighborhood. The custom dates from the time of King John, who visited the town in 1213. The roads were very bad, and some of his baggage wagons had to be left in the mire. On his arrival he inquired who was responsible for the condition of the roads, and, learning that the bailiffs were to blame, ordered them to be seized and dragged through the nearest pond.

There's not a charm that light's the face With so ineffable a grace. As sweet, pink lips and rosy teeth And nothing now, beneath the air, Can breathe such as these supply, None SO SOUGHT, that wears the wreath.

GREAT DISTRIBUTION SALE

N. & M. FRIEDMAN.

Of Cloaks, Dress Goods, Silks, Infants' Wear, Hosiery, Underwear, Linens, Domestics and Merchandise in every department of

The gigantic collection of choice merchandise to select from, coupled with the force of the TREMENDOUS REDUCTIONS throughout the house will crowd our stores to their utmost capacity. Case after case of new goods have poured in upon us from the Eastern markets, crowding our floors in every nook and corner, presenting a colossal display of superior values. MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 23d, at 8 o'clock sharp, we will commence the greatest sale of winter goods at sweeping reduced prices. This announcement alone is sufficient to bring thousands of people from far and near. Taking advantage of this sale will prove money in your purse.

DRESS GOODS WILL GO.

They will go rapidly. Double width Henriettas, serges, novelties, cashmeres, plaids, changeable twills, mixtures, at 19c a yard. All wool flannels in desirable shades, including one lot camel's hair suitings at 25c a yard. 62 pieces all wool checks, stripes, plaids, cheviots, hop cloths and newest effects in mixtures, worth regularly 50c to 75c, to go at 37c. 40c a yard for choice of 100 pieces all wool suitings, shipment just arrived, will be included in sale at 40c a yard. 46 inch imperial twills, positive value of two lots 90c and \$1.00 a yard, will be sacrificed in price at 69c a yard. Included in this great sale entire range of fine dress fabrics selling regularly at \$1.25, will be bunched at one price, 89c a yard. 75 high grade imported dress patterns (no two alike) ranging in price \$12 to \$25, will be reduced to astonishing low figures to close. Broadcloths, worth \$1.25 and \$1.50, reduced to 98c a yard.

BLACK AND MOURNING GOODS

Sweeping reductions to quickly sell, to rapidly convey stock into coin. Fine twill Henriettas at 19c a yard. 36 inch extra quality para netta twills at 25c a yard. 40 inch all wool serges and Henriettas, value 50c to 75c, at this sale 39c a yard. A stunner will be a great new line of Jacquards, cords, and figured wool fabrics, retailing regularly at \$1.00, you can obtain them during this sale at 59c a yard. 46 inch fine serges, cheviots, twills and other effects worth \$1.00 all over the states, sale price 69c a yard. "Priestley's" make in silk warp Henriettas, silk warp Drap de Almas, railway cords, melrose, storm serges, and scores of weaves ranging in price up to \$1.75 a yard, will be offered at 1.00 a yard. In connection with these great values in dress goods department we will quote: Best lining cambrics 3 3/4c a yard. Silesias at 11c a yard. Stockinette dress shields 7c a pair. Velvet dress binding at 7c a bunch. 100 yards spool silk 7c a spool. All other linings proportionately reduced.

SILKS.

Startling reductions in newest effects and weaves in silks, for this sale. Surah silks, colored or black, extra values only 39c a yard. Changeable surah silks, handsome effects, not 75c, their value, but 50c sale price. Black Faille Francais silk reduced to 59c a yard. Handsome patterns in printed drapery china silks at 47c a yard. Taffata silks, changeable silks, figured effects, satin de chene, gros grain, and various other weaves ranging in price at retail at 1.25, 1.50 and 1.75 a yard, our special price brings them down to 98c a yard.

VELVETS.

All the desirable shades including black of a superior quality; a splendid 1.25 value, sale price will be 98c a yard.

DRESS TRIMMINGS.

Comprising guimps, braids, band and line braids, the low price on these goods is 10c a yard. If you have a want in dress goods, in silks, in velvets, in trimmings, then do not permit this opportunity to pass as a chance of this magnitude is seldom offered. Read on, it will prove money in your purse.

INFANT'S WEAR.

This exclusive department will offer: Knit booties at 10c, 12 1/2c and 15c a pair. Babies' bonnets at 25c each. Babies' long white dresses at 29c and 50c each. Babies' long cloaks, cashmere material with embroidery finish, at 1.39 and 1.50 for garment. Children's Eiderdown cloaks, fur trimmed, at 2.25, 2.50, 2.89 and 3.00 for garment. Including in this sale we will offer: Babies' blankets, carriage robes, embroidered flannels, and babies' wear of all kinds at decidedly reduced prices.

MEN'S FURNISHINGS.

Men's wool hose 19c a pair, worth 25c. Gents' neckwear, ties reduced to 10c, worth 25c. 50c and 75c neck scarfs reduced to 39c. Extra quality natural grey underwear, a 50c value at 39c. Gent's night gowns value 1.00 and 1.25 down to 75c. Men's and Boys' overshirts extra value at 50c and 75c. Suspenders, 15c and 25c each. Special line, suspenders worth 75c to close at 39c a pair.

HOSIERY.

Always the cheapest on best qualities and makes, still further reductions bring to your homes, money savers, such as you have never seen for good goods. A few are these at sale prices: Ladies' wool hose 19c a pair. Ladies' plain or ribbed wool hose 25c a pair. Ladies' fine cashmere hose, 50c value, at 37 1/2c a pair. Ladies' fleeced lined hose, extra values, in tan, russet, modes and black, at 25c, 35c, 37 1/2c, 45c a pair. Children's woolen hose 15c, 19c and 25c a pair. Children's Saxony wool hose, spliced heel and toe, double knee, a 50c grade, at 39c a pair. Children's fleeced lined hose, sizes 6 to 8 1/2, at 39c and 35c a pair, extra values. Now is the time to buy and save money.

The prices quoted above are only on a few of thousands of values to be offered at this great sale—in many instances worth double the price asked. We would request an early response to this great offering of bargains.

CLOAKS.

Competition never enters our stronghold—down, down go the prices to keep step with the other departments. Ladies' jackets, fur trimmed, Worth collar, a 7.50 value, at 4.95. Handsome jackets, splendid materials, newest designs, 10.00 values, at 6.50. Beautiful jackets, cape effects, fur or braid trimmings, to duplicate them would cost you 15, sale price for choice 9.75. A gigantic range of the handsomest styles and ideas in cloaks—a 20.00 value at 13.50, a 25.00 value at 18.00. Ladies' fur capes, jackets in latest approved styles, will be offered at pronounced bargain prices at this sale. Our elegant line of astrachan jackets at greatly reduced prices. 37.50 will secure astrachan jacket considered good value at 50.00. Children's jackets 98c and up. Children's gretchen cloaks, latest approved makes, at 2.00, 2.50, 2.89 and 3.00 and upwards. You will find value in all of them.

FURS.

The magnificent selection of capes, collars, thibits, muffs and fur trimmings to be found in this department will be put forward at this sale at extremely bargain prices, including: 500 yards fur trimming, ranging in price 1.00 to 1.50, at 59c yard. Ladies' French hare muffs at 25c, 50c and 75c. Buy now—soon you'll need them.

LINENS.

HOUSEKEEPER'S HARVEST.

Turkey red table Damask 17c, 19c, 25c and 30c a yard. Loom table linen at 15c, 19c, 25c, 35c, 39c and 49c a yard. Bleached table Damask at 29c, 33c, 35c, 37 1/2c, 39c, 49c, 57c, 63c and 69c a yard. Special reduction of fine bleached satin Damask, worth 1.00 and 1.25, reduced to 79c a yard. Red bordered bleached table linens at 23c, 25c, 29c, 35c and 39c. Crash towelling at 3 1/2c a yard. Linen crash towelling at 4 1/2c, 5c, 6c, 7 1/2c, 9c and 10c a yard. Huck towelling 10c and 12 1/2c a yard. All linen towels at 3c, 5c, 7c, 9c and 10c each. Honey comb toilet towels at 7c, 10c and 12c each. Turkish bath towels at 10c, 12 1/2c, 15c, 18c and 25c each. Special offering in large size Damask towels, knotted fringe, worth 40c at 25c each. Stamped dresser scarfs, commode scarfs, sideboard scarfs, splashers, tray cloths, center pieces, new patterns at 25c each. All linen napkins at 35c, 39c, 43c, 49c, 59c, 69c, 89c, 98c a dozen.

NOTION DEPARTMENT.

A few hundred of specialties are these: Crochet and knitting silks at 25c a ball. Curling irons 5c each. Dressing combs 5c each. Etching cotton, fast red, at 10c a dozen skeins. Silk web and band hose supporters, 50c goods, at 29c a pair. Shopping bags 25c each. All silk ribbons, gros grain, satin edged, Nos. 12 and 16, at 12 1/2c a yard. Stop at notion counter for bargains.

DOMESTICS.

Outing flannel, splendid value, at 5c a yard. Standard prints at 3 1/2c a yard. Apron check ginghams 5c a yard. Best indigo blue prints 5c a yard. Heavy shaker flannel at 4 1/2c a yard. Red figured outing flannel, splendid value, at 9c a yard. 36 in. washable prunella and camelote suitings at 12 1-2c yard. Double width pillow case cotton, extra quality, at 10c a yard. Silk alines, new designs at 12 1-2c a yard. Extra quality heavy 8c and 9c unbleached cottons reduced for this sale to 6c a yard.

UNDERWEAR.

Great reduction in high class underwear for this sale: Ladies' Jersey ribbed vests at 19c and 25c each. Ladies' heavy and fine ribbed vests, grey and white, at 35c and 50c each. Ladies' mixed wool vests, grey and white, a superior quality, worth 1.00, at regular sale price 69c each. Ladies' combination suits at 50c, 75c and 1.00 for suit. Children's Jersey ribbed vests and pants, worth up to 50c, reduced to 25c each. Children's Jersey ribbed vests, merino vests and pants, worth up to 50c, reduced to 25c each. Ladies' and children's equestrienne tights at 50c, 75c and 1.00. Many other values to be offered at this sale.

MUSLIN UNDERWEAR.

Splendid materials, made in best styles, lock stitched: Ladies' muslin drawers at 25c, 45c and 50c. Ladies' chemises 25c, 35c and 50c for garment. Ladies' night gowns, elegant embroidered finish, at 49c, 59c, 69c, 75c, 79c, 89c and 98c a garment. Aprons, nicely finished and trimmed, splendid value at 40c, sale price 25c each.

GLOVES AND HANDKERCHIEFS

Ladies' Jersey gloves at 25c, 35c and 50c a pair, extra values. Trefosse kid gloves, best in the market, at special low prices. 100 dozen ladies' hemstitched handkerchiefs at 3c and 5c, worth double. 100 dozen ladies' hemstitched handkerchiefs, embroidered designs, worth up to 25c, at 12 1-2c each.

Read
Each
Item.
You
Will
Find
Some
Thing
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